



Arizona State Legislature

1700 West Washington

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

July 23, 2013

Attorney General Tom Horne
1275 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Maricopa County Attorney Bill Montgomery
301 West Jefferson Street, Suite 800
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio
100 West Washington, Suite 1900
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Dear Gentlemen:

We are writing you all to encourage you to vigorously enforce Arizona's voter-approved medical marijuana laws by closing the many unlicensed and unregulated operations that are not DHS authorized dispensaries. These so-called "clubs" or "cooperatives" operate with complete disregard to our laws, including but not limited to zoning laws and DHS Rules. Simply put these illegal operations are not DHS licensed dispensaries and were never contemplated by the voter-approved law.

While licensed dispensaries are operating within Arizona law and are doing their best to fully comply with both the spirit and letter of our laws, these clubs do not. Their very existence is a violation of the law and their operation involves the breaking of multiple laws. They attract, as customers, those who do not qualify for medicinal marijuana (MMJ) and those who do not want to comply with our laws and rules regarding MMJ. Worse, because they operate wherever they want, they often make their homes in or too near to residential neighborhoods, schools, parks or libraries. When you combine their location with the types of customers they attract, there is little doubt as to why so many of our constituents are angered and concerned.

Moreover, because these operations do not participate in the state database to track the amount of MMJ being given to any single recipient, these clubs are often the source of marijuana that is finding its way onto our streets and to our kids.

Arizona voters passed Medical Marijuana laws to ensure that it was available to those whose conditions could be helped with its lawful use. Arizona voters remain opposed to it finding its

Attorney General Horne
Maricopa County Attorney Montgomery
Maricopa County Sheriff Arpaio
July 26, 2013
Page 2

way into the hands of kids and recreational users, particularly in violation of our laws and DHS Rules.

You gentlemen are the front line in this effort. Your offices can lead the way in this matter and we would encourage you to do so in the strongest way possible, including increased investigation and prosecution.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

State Senator Judy Burges
State Senator Chester Crandell
State Representative David Livingston
State Representative Kelly Townsend
State Representative Jeff Dial
State Representative Steve Montenegro
State Representative Darin Mitchell
State Representative Robert Thorpe
State Representative Ethan Orr
State Representative Steve Smith
State Representative David Stevens
State Representative Justin Olson
Tracy Livingston, Peoria School Board